

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A 21

THE WASHINGTON POST
11 February 1981

Iran Releases U.S. Citizen Jailed as Spy

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, Feb. 10 (AP) — American writer Cynthia Dwyer flew out of Iran to freedom today after nine months' imprisonment and a one-day mix-up in her deportation.

The 49-year-old Dwyer, a freelance journalist convicted of espionage and then ordered deported, arrived in Dubai on an Iranian plane loaded with peasants.

Met by U.S. Embassy officials, she was whisked away in a police car without talking to reporters. She was due to fly on to Switzerland and then to New York Wednesday for a reunion with her husband and three children.

Her departure left Zia Nassry, an Afghan-born New York businessman arrested March 8, as the last American ensnared in Iran. He was seized shortly after he went there, reportedly hoping to make his way into Afghanistan to support rebels fighting the Soviets.

The Swiss Ambassador to Iran, Erik Lang, told The Associated Press in Beirut today there was a "slight hope" Nassry would be included in a clemency order on the anniversary of the Iranian revolution Wednesday. The Swiss handle U.S. affairs in Iran.

Another American, 44-year-old

Iranian-born Mohi Sobhani, whose family lives in Southern California, was freed last week on \$1 million bond raised by his family. Four Britons also held in Iran are also expected to be freed soon.

A State Department spokeswoman in Washington, Sue Pittman, said there were no government plans to hospitalize Dwyer or debrief her as was done with the 52 American hostages freed by Iran Jan. 20.

[In Tehran, Iranian authorities turned over luggage belonging to the 52 former hostages to the Swiss Embassy; Swiss officials told United Press International. The 52 freed Americans had left Tehran with nothing but the clothes on their backs.]

U.S. Ambassador William Wolle and the U.S. consul to Dubai, Tom Dowling, met Dwyer at the airport.

"Mrs. Dwyer is well and has expressed a desire not to meet the press," a U.S. Embassy spokesman said.

The Swiss Foreign Office in Bern said she would fly to Zurich Wednesday, arriving at 8:35 a.m. (2:35 a.m. EST) and then to New York.

Her husband, John, 45, a college English professor, said at his home in Amherst, N.Y., a Buffalo suburb, that he felt "terrific" knowing she was finally free.